Pacific Commercial Advertiser

A MORNING PAPER

WALTER G. SMITH

THE PRESIDENT AND THE TARIFF.

President Taft's straightforward warning to Congress regarding their platform pledges and tariff legislation, while more direct than anything that had until Wednesday been spoken, was only a continuance of the advice he has been giving his party leaders for months, prior to his election and afterward. While the action of the Chief Executive of the nation is not according to the "straight party" ideas of some, who have as their motto, "Party Above Principle," it will appeal to those, the majority of Americans, who regard a party pledge as something more than a mere expedient toward gaining office.

The people, irrespective of politics and regardless of what the politicians may think is best for themselves, interpret the Republican convention pledge, given at Chicago, as a pledge for the downward revision of the tariff, although Senator Aldrich announced on the floor of the Senate that he does not so regard it. The tariff plank in the platform was:

The Republican party declares unequivocally for a revision of the tariff by a special session of Congress immediately following the inauguration of the next President, and commends the steps already taken to this end in the work assigned to the appropriate committees of Congress, which are now investigating the operation and effect of existing schedules. In all tariff legislation the true principle of protection is best maintained by the imposition of such duties as will equal the difference between the cost of production at home and abroad, together with a reasonable profit to American industries. In Mr. Taft's inaugural address we read:

There has been such a change in conditions since the enactment of the Dingley Act, drafted on a similarly protective principle, that the measure of the tariff above stated will permit the reduction of rates in certain schedules, and will require the advancement of few, if any. * * In accordance with the promises of the platform upon which I was elected, I shall call Congress into extra session, to meet on the 15th day of March, in order that consideration may be at once given to a bill revising the Dingley Act.

Congress duly met in special session. A part of its work has been accomplished, for a tariff bill has passed the House of Representatives, a measure marking a slight improvement over the present tanff, but, in view of these pledges, unsatisfactory to those who voted on the understanding that a downward revision meant something more radical. From present indications, the Senate bill will be even more unsatisfactory to them. When it is passed, conferees will be appointed by the House and the Senate. The result of their conference will in all probability be a compromise measure.

When the bill comes before him, the President will, we believe, ask himself: Is this an honest and a thorough attempt, first, to provide revenue; second, to remedy injustices and adapt duties to changed economic conditions; dowery altar. and, third, to encourage industries in accordance with the Republican camraign pledge?

Concerning that pledge, Secretary MacVeagh, the second ranking officer of the Cabinet, recently made the following significant announcement:

What the people expect is what the protectionist Republican party promised in its last year's platform, as interpreted by its candidate for the Presidency; and while it is talking against the wind to argue that the revision expected is not a revision down, it would be equally futile to say that the revision down was promised to be a revision

No one expects "a revision down and out." But no one expects the Presi- dressed in soft white crepe with some ent to abandon his principles—that is, with the possible exception of certain exquisite lace, a stately and charming politicians who declaim regarding party loyalty and who forget that loyalty to a party implies loyalty to party promises. Why should the President be asked own footsteps. to abandon his principles? He would be asked to do this if the majority in Congress should force through a measure of greed, not of reason, a measure not journed to the tent where the breakproviding for a distinctly downward revision,

But Secretary MacVeagh was not satisfied with the evident implication away to change to her traveling costhat, unless the bill provides for such revision, it might be in danger of a veto. He went further, and pointed out another danger to the Senate majority-the cauger of a possible loss of political leadership, a foreword of that spoken by low. the President at New Haven. Pertinently he warned his hearers.

And you and I must agree-for we can not escape the conclusionthat it might become at any time the duty of any great party leader to create for his party a new majority and control.

MARKED DECLINE IN EXPORTS.

It is now apparent that the exports from the United States in the fiscal year which ends with the present month will fall materially below those of 1908 and 1907, and slightly below those of 1906. The total value of domestic merchandise exported in 1908 was \$1,835,000,000, in 1907 \$1,854,000,000, and in 1906 \$1,718,000,000, these figures being in round terms. The eleven months' figures of the Bureau of Statistics, just made public, indicate that the domestic exports for the full fiscal year 1909 will be nearly \$200,000,000 below the average of 1908 and 1907, and perhaps \$50,000,000 below those of 1906.

The causes of this marked decline in the export trade of the United States are practically those which have produced similar conditions in other parts of the world-a reduction in general demand for merchandise and a material reduction in the prices of certain of the more important articles exported. That the world's markets are taking less produce in 1908-9 than in 1907-8 is quite apparent from the figures published from month to month by the bureau of Statistis of the Department of Commerce and Labor. The total imports of our largest customer, the United Kingdom for example, were in ten months ending with April, 1909, \$123,000,000 below those of the corresponding months of the preceding year; and our own exports to that country in the same period of time fell \$68,000,000. Canada shows for the eleven months ending with February, 1909, a fall of \$68,000,000 in her imports; and our own figures of exports to that country show a fall of \$11,000,000 in the ten months ending with April, 1909. Germany shows a fall of \$101,000,000 in imports in the calendar year 1908 compared with those of 1907. India shows a fall of \$16,000,000 in imports in the eleven months ending with February, 1909, compared with the corresponding months of the preceding year. Japan shows for the three months ending with March, 1909, a fall of \$16,000,000 in her imports; Mexico, for the eight months ending with February, 1909, a fall of \$32,000,000; and Cuba, for the twelve months ending with December, 1908, a fall of \$20,000,000 in her imports. Thus in nearly all of the countries which we may class as our principal customers, general importations show a marked decline.

In round terms it may be said that of the approximately \$200,000,000 of reduction in exports from the United States which will be shown by the trade figures of the fiscal year of 1909 compared with 1908, about \$90,000,000 will be found in foodstuffs, over \$90,000,000 in manufacturers, and about \$20,000,000 in cotton; and that the general cause of this reduction is lower prices for certain articles and a general reduction in importing power by the principal countries to which our merchandise is distributed.

POST REFUSES TO STAMPEDE.

The New York Post is one mainland paper which refused to get excited over the attempts to make an international episode of the Hawaii strike situation. The Post makes a joke of the whole affair, saying:

"Had the Japanese labor disturbance in Hawaii come last year, when Hobson, with eagle eye, gazed on the Pacific and saw invading fleets draw near, the incident might have been worth columnfuls of printed alarm, with red scareheads innumerable. But this happens to be the season when the Japanese, instead of being a ruthless and fiendishly cunning nation of conspirators, are a rather pleasant people who make graceful after-dinner speeches and are hugely pleased with Coney Island. The weather is hot and moist. The Giants are doing fairly well, but the Yankees are making rather a poor showing on their home grounds. A mushroom weighing nearly forty pounds has been discovered. College presidents are warning us against the dangers of national decadence. Other college presidents are pointing out that we are much better in every way than our fathers were. Sixty per cent. of New York's children are said to be addicted to the use of alcohol. The Public School Athletic League of New York plays a thousand games of baseball every season. Presidential golf scores are improving in a very satisfactory manner. Mrs. Eddy has been shown to be still alive. Hence, the situation in Hawaii resolves itself into a mere manifestation of labor-unionism with certain dramatic attachments,"

LIVINGSTON-HOPPER WEDDING

At the residence of the bride's parents, on Keeaumoku street, Chester Gilbert Livingston and Katherine Matthews Hopper were married by Rev. A. C. McKeever last night. Clifford Thompson was best man, Elizabeth Hopper, sister of the bride, was maid of honor, and Margaret Peterson and Dorothy Smallwood were bridesmaids, W. Lewers Hopper, father of the bride gave her away.

The Hopper residence was beautifully decorated for the celebration. Situated as it is on the rise of the hill with a spacious lawn embowered with trees reaching down from it, the house lent itself perfectly to the art of the electricians and decorators, who were busy many days before the wedding.

Along the Waikiki side of the resitence and below the lanai, canvas had been stretched, enclosing a roomy space where the tables for the wedding supper were spread. The bridal table was set in the center and was decorated with a branch of cherry blossom. Greenery and flowers decorated all the other tables and the canvas sides of the tenting, while electric bulbs glowed behind shades of flowers and ferns.

The ceremony was performed in the front parlor. Here a screen of ferns and Easter lilies had been erected. Mrs. Arthur Wall was the architect. she was ably assisted by other members of the "Minutes" club, a social organization to which the bride

belongs. In the diningroom the wedding presents were displayed and there was a beautiful array of silver and useful presents. Here, as everywhere on the lower floor of the house, there were the deftest of decorations. Green ferns and foliage with flowers peeping out, electric lights that glowed shyly through their shades of greenery and the prettiest taste displayed every-

The guests were all assembled well before the hour named for the ceremony and, when Miss Nora Sturgeon, with her violin and Mrs. Ralph Johnson, at the piano, sounded the first bars of the Wedding March, the bride advanced on the arm of her father and was met by the groom in front of the

The bride's wedding dress was of a modified directoire style with handembroidered panels down the front and back, a short train and vail and with collars and cuffs of real lace. She carried a shower bouquet of white bride roses and the sweetness of white veil, dress and flowers was a fitting foil for the clear color of her face.

The maid of honor wore pink liberty satin, making a charming contrast with a bunch of Easter lilies tied with a pink ribbon. The bride's mother was figure and carrying well the sad delight of watching her daughter follow in her

After the ceremony everybody adfast was served. There were toasts and speeches and then the bride ran tume. On the stairs she went through the graceful and time-honored ritual of throwing her bouquet to the crowd be-

One maid who can these flowers catch, Will make the next successful match, and Margaret Peterson was the lucky

one to catch the bouquet. The newly-wed couple will spend their honeymoon on the Islands. Their itinerary was not given out. They will visit the volcano and Kanai, however, before they return.

SUNDAY CLOSING

(Continued from Page One.)

the members of the Board that the Sunday privilege revocation can be evaded successfully by some of the subterfuges mentioned. There is good reason to believe, however, that no holder of a liquor license which is effeetive on week days will go contrary to the wishes of the members of the Board as far as the enforcement of

the Sunday privilege is concerned. The Board has absolute power to revoke licenses at its discretion and so far there has been no indication that it will countenance any attempts to minimize the intention of revoking the Sunday privilege of liquor selling from all hotels, cafes and restaurants.

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